In the claims:

1. (Currently amended) A clamping element (10, 21) for fixing an article of clothing, especially a pair of pants, to a transverse support (27), which connects the ends of a clothes hanger (20) and has a middle reinforced region (15, 26) and two outer leaf spring elements (11, 12, 28, 29), characterized in that it is made entirely of plastic, and the leaf spring elements (11, 12, 28, 29) have a thickness that varies over their length.

Claim 2 cancelled.

3. (Original claim) The clamping element (10, 21) of claim 1, characterized in that the leaf spring elements (11, 12, 28, 29) protrude into the reinforced middle region (15, 26).

4. (Original claim) The clamping element (10, 21) of claim 1, characterized in that the leaf spring elements (11, 12, 28, 29) have a curvature, so that at the connecting points (16, 17, 22, 23) to the clothes hanger (20) they have an angle of inclination of preferably 1°-35° relative to the horizontal.

5. (Original claim) The clamping element (10, 21) of claim 1, characterized in that on both ends it has a respective joint element (16, 17, 22, 23) for articulated connection to the clothes hanger (20).

6. (Original claim) The clamping element (10, 21) of claim 1, characterized in that it is made from plastic, preferably POM, polycarbonate, or impact resistance modified polystyrene.

7. (Original claim) The clamping element (10, 21) of claim 1, characterized in that it is made of a glass fiber reinforced plastic, such as POM-GF.

8. (Original claim) The clamping element (10, 21) of claim 1, characterized in that it is made of an amorphous plastic.

9. (Original claim) The clamping element (10, 21) of claim 1, characterized in that it is made in a single operation.

10. (Original claim) The clamping element (10, 21) of claim 1, characterized in that the reinforced middle region (15, 26) and the leaf spring elements (11, 12) are embodied as a one- piece injection-molded part.